

# **Proposal for an Existing Stocks Wildlife Trade Operation for the export of Eastern Grey *Macropus giganteus* and Western Grey *M. fuliginosus* Kangaroo skins stockpiled under the Victorian Petfood Trial 1 April–21 November 2016.**

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## **1. Introduction**

This application seeks approval for an Existing Stocks Wildlife Trade Operation under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) to enable the export of kangaroo skins stockpiled between 1 April and 21 November 2016 under the Victorian Petfood Trial.

### **1.1 Scientific name(s):**

*Macropus giganteus*

*Macropus fuliginosus*

### **1.2 Common name(s):**

Eastern Grey Kangaroo

Western Grey Kangaroo

### **1.3 Location of harvest**

Hume and Grampians Petfood Trial areas.

### **1.4 Description of existing stocks**

Kangaroo skins harvested under the Victorian Petfood Trial 1<sup>st</sup> April to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 prior to the granting of a WTO dated 21.11.2016

Both Eastern Grey *Macropus giganteus* and Western Grey *M. fuliginosus* skins have been collected and frozen. All skins have been identified with the tagging system implemented under the previous WTO and in line with the now approved WTO.

### **1.5 Status of species under legislation**

*Macropus giganteus* and *Macropus fuliginosus* are protected under the Victorian **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988** which is administered by the Department of Sustainability and Environment. Harvesters require a Permit to Harvest under this Act and must comply with the conditions specified on the permit.

This includes local government controls under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, DELWP. Permits to harvest are issued by Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The commercial export of harvested *Macropus giganteus* and *Macropus fuliginosus* is regulated under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The applicant has a current Wildlife License [Number 1455558].

## **2. Statement of General Goals/Aims**

Victorian Petfood Processors is a medium size business that produces pet meat for the Australian pet food market. The skins derived from the kangaroos are of an export quality. Victorian Petfood Processors overall objective is to export those skins collected after the expiry of the first stage of the Victorian Petfood Trial and prior to the issuing of a new small-scale WTO.

## **3. Description of Management Measures**

Permits to harvest kangaroos were issued by DELWP for the control of wildlife on individual parcels of land. The properties have been identified by state authorities in regards to the application for wildlife to be controlled. Records are kept showing permit numbers, property identification and an individually numbered tag on each skin to be exported. Existing stocks of skins are all tagged and frozen then sent to a plant in South Australia for treatment prior to export.

### **3.1 Details of harvest area**

Private property in Grampians and Hume Pet Food Trial areas.

### **3.2 Details of land ownership**

Private property identified by the property identification [PIC] number associated with each permit.

### **3.3 Harvest quantity**

As stated in WTO.

### **3.4 Method of harvest**

As described in the *National Code of Practice for the Humane shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes* and guidelines set out in the Victorian Pet Food Trial

### **3.5 Timing and duration of harvest**

1st April to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016.

## **4. Impact of harvest on Taxa and Relevant Ecosystem**

The harvest of the kangaroos is unlikely to have an impact on either the taxa or relevant ecosystem in this situation as it is a small-scale permit allocated harvest only. The area of harvest are those areas indicated in the Victorian Kangaroo Pet Food Trial. No impact to the environment is expected and kangaroos harvested will have minimal impact on kangaroo populations.

## **5. Monitoring and Assessment**

### **5.1 Resource assessment**

Assessment of distribution has been conducted by wildlife officers [DELWP] and the Eastern Grey Kangaroo and Western Grey Kangaroo are found to be common in the region of interest.

### **5.2 Independent supervision**

There are visits by the Wildlife officers and PrimeSafe. DELWP representatives have also visited the property.

### **5.3 Monitoring of harvesting**

Monitoring of the ecosystem and the effect of harvesting are the responsibility of the DELWP [Victorian.] Action will be taken should any unforeseen effect arise.

## **6. Compliance**

The DELWP office oversees compliance and is working with the applicant to ensure systems are effective and transparent.

## **7. Reports**

Reports can be made available complying with any requirements requested from the Federal Department of the Environment and Energy.

## **9. Summary**

Eastern Grey Kangaroo [*Macropus giganteus*] and Western Grey Kangaroo [*Macropus fuliginosus*] are protected by state and federal legislation. They are permitted to be exported under an approved program such as a Wildlife Trade Operation under section 303FN of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Both species are very well represented in reserves throughout their ranges and considered to be abundant.